

The Gould Usurpations.

K. C. Times.

The action brought in the supreme court of Kansas to forfeit the charter of the Kansas Pacific railway company because its management has passed into the control of a corporation organized in another state, states a much less aggravating case than that which might be made against the Gould syndicate in this state.

There has been committed the offense charged in Kansas against the sovereignty of the state, and also direct and specific violation of the constitution of the state and the laws made in pursuance thereof.

It is provided in section 789 of the revised statutes of Missouri, that no consolidation of any railroad company or companies shall be lawful, except where, by such consolidation, a continuous line of road is secured, running in the whole or in the main in the same general direction; and that it shall not be lawful for such roads to consolidate in whole or in part where by so doing it will deprive the public of the benefit of competition between them, and in case any such railroad companies shall consolidate or attempt to consolidate their roads contrary to the provisions of this article, such consolidation shall be void, and any person or party aggrieved, whether stockholder or not, may bring action against them in the circuit court of any county through which such road may pass, which court shall have jurisdiction in the case, and power to restrain by injunction or otherwise.

Not only therefore is the question raised in Kansas against railroad usurpations an open one in this state, subject to adjudication in the same kind of action as that brought in Kansas, but positive statutes have here been set at naught and trampled upon by the Gould syndicate. The consolidation of the Missouri Pacific and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas several years ago was in all probability obnoxious to the general principles of law enunciated by the action brought in our sister state. Doubtless the further practical consolidation of the Iron Mountain with the same interest was also a substantial violation of the same general laws. But when the railroad king came to Kansas City and laid his hands on a road built expressly for competition with the Missouri Pacific, he committed an act of usurpation which in other days would have cost other kings their heads.

With her three independent trunk lines between St. Louis and Kansas City the state had provided for such competition as would protect her citizens from a monopoly of the carrying trade between the two most important points in the state. The completion of the Missouri Pacific to this point soon after the war, was hailed with hardly less delight than the completion of a parallel and competing line on the north side of the river. The rivalry of the two roads was ample guaranty to the state of first-class service and reasonable rates for the transportation of persons and property. To make still more certain those advantages, the legislature in 1870 passed the amended law quoted above, and for eight years immunity from the dreaded possibilities of a monopoly of the carrying trade between the two cities was secured, with exception of the damage wrought by temporary pools.

Like all prudent usurpers, the gobbler king before whose sceptre the state government of Missouri is "wont" to bow, began upon the weak—took the little narrow gauge and destroyed that point which he hated most, and meeting with no complaint from the state government, after waiting ample time to give it a thorough test, laid the hand of further usurpation upon the Pacific's principal rival and crushed within his iron grasp its power of competition.

When later still the other companies whose roads have sought Kansas City essayed to build the "Belt Line" and to lay off within its iron boundary a territory for the capital commercial metropolis of the new west the same hand was extended, and the greatest enterprise ever inaugurated for the growth and devel-

opment of the city was remorselessly crushed.

The arch enemy of Kansas City, this foreign power in our state, has moved from one usurpation to another until no enterprise which affects the commerce of the state is safe without first submitting to the payment of tribute to the Gould syndicate or accommodating itself to the demands of the Gould interests.

It will go on unless the people of the state find some way of reaching their recreant officials, and, like the people of Kansas, of bringing the usurpers before the courts to answer for their lawless deeds.

The Creamery.

From the Clinton Advocate.

As stated, Saturday Mr. Smiley met a few of the citizens at the court house and gave them a talk on Creamery; explaining its operations in full and making a statement of the contract they would make with those who might conclude to take hold of the matter, which, in substance is about this. They propose to put up the building, fit it up with all the machinery necessary to make butter; also an ice house, for the sum of \$5,500. This sum is to be paid them when the building is completed and ready for operation. He then asks that stock to the amount of \$6,500 be subscribed, twenty shares of which were to be given to Messrs. Holt & Hall. These gentlemen are to furnish, at the expense of the company, a competent man to take charge of the butter making and, a route man, or in other words, a man to travel around the country to gather up the cream. As these two positions require men of experience it is of course to the interest of the company to have only such men employed. Messrs. Holt & Hall are also to have charge of the sale of the butter.

The proposition is certainly a favorable one. Mr. Smiley claims that the amount asked for the construction of the building and placing the machinery therein barely covers the cost; in fact, it could not be done for that sum through any contractor in this region. Their profits are to come through the stock they hold in the business, which, as is seen, is a minority of the stock, the management being under the control of the stock holders of whom a majority are citizens. That there is money in it as an investment is evident from the fact that these gentlemen are canvassing the state for the erection of these institutions upon the same terms proposed at this place. If there is money in it to them as stock holders, merely, then it must be so to other stockholders.

Aside from this it creates a paying business to all farmers who choose to avail themselves of this opportunity. It pays them better than raising any farm product with much less expense. The average price paid for cream is 16 cents per gauge, a little less than half a gallon. Cans are furnished the farmer, having a glass strip affixed marked to gauges and parts of gauges, so that the exact quantity is seen at a glance. Credit is given when the can is emptied, the farmer at the same time is furnished with a memorandum, so that at the end of thirty days he knows just what is due him and collects accordingly. It will be seen that the transactions are fair and above board.

The proposition is so square and the investment so good that these gentlemen have no trouble to locate Creameries at whatever point they choose to select. Its value as an investment and its great value in other respects to any place where it may be located is so apparent it only has to be explained to be accepted. The necessary steps are now being taken in this city to secure the stock and it is expected by the middle of October to have the works ready for operation.

Twenty-six democratic county committees of California have passed resolutions demanding the impeachment of Railroad Commissioners Humphreys and Carpenter because of sluggish action in the direction of securing reduction of fares and freights.

The French Republic.

From the Post-Dispatch.

Paris has just unveiled with great éclat a statue of the Republic. It is the figure of a majestic woman wearing a laurel crown and Phrygian cap, holding upward in her right hand the olive branch of peace, while her left rests upon a shield inscribed, "The Rights of Man." Around this figure are grouped "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," a bronze lion guarding the urn of universal suffrage, and bas reliefs commemorating the great Republican events of French history. The people of Paris greeted it with fetes and huzzas, and there is no reason to doubt that the Republic is still strong in the hearts of the French people, but an impression is abroad among the statesmen of other nations that it is nearing dangerous breakers. It has had to carry the enormous load of debt imposed upon France by the Franco-Prussian war and the Second Empire. It has been compelled to maintain a giant standing army, always a menace to a Republic. To meet these exhausting drains upon the resources of the country, and to lay a new foundation for national expansion and future relief, it has been compelled to enter upon a colonial acquisition that has aroused the jealousy of neighboring nations.

This course should be a guarantee that national necessity and yearning for enlargement will not be at their expense or by encroachment upon them, but they refuse to take that view of it. The acquisition of Tunis angered Italy and enabled Bismarck to form the anti-Gallican alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy. England was compensated with Egypt, but is now evidently ready to assume a hostile attitude towards the operations of France in Tonquin and Madagascar. English papers are pointing with alarm to the strength of the French navy, and the British ministry show a disposition to take the most serious and exaggerated view of every rumor about the conduct of the French officers towards the British ships and subjects on the coast of Madagascar.

It is evidently the policy of the Republic to keep peace with near neighbors by finding an outlet in Asia and Africa for French commerce and colonial enterprise, and if they are wise her neighbors will encourage rather than thwart that policy. The loss of vast colonial possessions contributed greatly to the overthrow of the Bourbons and the establishment of the first Republic. If Europe now combines to forbid French acquisition in other parts of the world, the pent up energy of France may again explode in war for the acquisition of adjacent territory, and she develop another Napoleon about the time that old Bismarck and Von Moltke pass from the stage of action. Peace has been the practice of the Republic so far, and is still its motto. When the Republic falls by the machinations of European cabinets, it will be succeeded by another military monarch and another era of European wars.

The New York Star of Saturday last has an editorial on the subject of the renomination of the "old ticket," which is full of significance. The Star is the organ of the Tammany Democracy, and is said to be controlled, if not owned, by John Kelly. That paper in the course of a long article says:

"The fate of the party lies in the hands of its leaders. If in their judgement, as well as in that of the friends of Mr. Tilden, it is the best and wisest and safest policy to place once more in the field the ticket which was triumphantly elected in 1876, no Democrat has a right to object."

"And if, setting all personal considerations and individual ambitions aside, the Democracy, through their representatives in national convention, should conclude to revitalize and vindicate the 'old idea,' it will be beyond the power of any loyal Democrat to withhold his approval of that action."

Commenting on the foregoing, the Cincinnati Enquirer of yesterday declares that "this removes the only formidable opposition (that of Tammany) there has been to Mr. Tilden and therefore it means a great deal."

—St. Louis Republican

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